of Bhuna Chana and Murmura at a cost of Rs. 21.16 lacs on the basis of recommendations of the Purchase Committee and approval of the Chairman, Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation. The question of enquiry does not arise.

2773. [*Transferred to the 5th December, 1988*]

Declaration of THRUST AREA to encourage setting up of Food/Vegetables Processing Industries

2774. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Central/State Government have declared various States/Districts as "THRUST AREA" for encouraging the setting up of Food, Fruits and vegetables processing Industries with a view to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their products and such industries set up either in advanced or developed districts will get the same facilities and incentives as are enjoyed by industries situated in backward areas;

(b) if so, the names of such States/Advanced or developed districts Statewise and facilities and incentives likely to be offered to such food processing units and by which department/authorities of Central/State Governments such facilities and incentives are likely to be provided; and

(c) what are the food, Fruits and Vegetables items reserved exclusive for processing in small scale sector and facilities and incentives likely to be offered to such small scale units by Central/State Government and by when such incentives are likely to be applicable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Elections to the Sarva Priya Co-Operative House Building Society

2775. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is obligatory to conduct elections to the various Co-operative House Building Societies which have been allotted land by the Delhi Development Authority in New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Sarva Priya Co-operative House Building Society, Sarva Priya Vihar, New Delhi have not conducted elections for their society for the last many years;

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the DDA in this regard; and

(d) whether there are numerous complaints from some Members of Parliament with regard to the management of the above Society, and if so, what steps have been taken to supercede the Society in public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Society conducted its last election in 1988.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Delhi has instituted an inspection under Section 54 of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 by an Assistant Registrar.

Action against NCCF for violation of the Export Trade Control Regulations

2776. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred

Question 183 dated 6th May, 1986 and state:

(a) what action has been taken by Government against NCCF and its involved officers for violation of the Export Trade Control Regulation, so far;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the scandal involving theft of foreign exchange worth Rs. 4 crores; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) The NCCF have filed a criminal case in the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bombay against the party on the plea that the party fraudulently exported rice in the name of the NCCF. The matter was also enquired into by CID, Bombay who have, inter-alia, recommended that the case be also investigated by the CBI. The matter has been taken up accordingly.

Loss to NCCF on import of Dry-dates

2777. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCCF was debarred by Central Licensing Area w.e.f. 28th January, 1985 to import any goods into India for a period of 5 years for indulging into serious irregularities committed by its Regional Manager (West) Bombay by violating conditions of Import Licence for dry fruits issued in June, 1982;

(b) whether despite this order, Regional Manager, (West) renewed the letter of credit in March, 1985 covering the import of 1500 M.T. of Dry-Dates worth about Rs. 3 crores;

(c) if so, what action has been taken against the Regional Manager (West), so far; and

(d) whether the Dry-Dates were stranded at the Bombay Port for one year due to the negligence of Regional Manager (West) and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) NCCF was debarred by the Central Licensing Area on 24-1-1985 to import any goods for a period of 5 years. On an appeal filed by NCCF on 14-2-1985, against that order, the Joint Chief Controller of Imports & Exports allowed on 11-7-85 clearance of the consignment of 1500 MTs of dry dates which was against firm commitment and backed by irrevocable letter of credit dated 19-1-1985 made prior to the date of passing debarrment order on 24-1-1985. However, subsequently the debarrment period was reduced to three licensing periods.

(b) No, Sir. The letter of credit was renewed in March, 1985 for import of 1500 MTs of dry dates because of the above order.

(c) and (d) The irregularities in the import and sale of dry dates have been referred to CBI, who have since started regular investigations. The NCCF had also completed the departmental enquiry against Regional Manager (West) for his lapses and have decided to impose major penalty on him. The case has been referred the CVC in this regard.

Release of payment to M/s. Dharamraj Neyuse and Co. Dubai by NCCF

2778. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Controller of Accounts and Finance of